

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS AND  
SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL

April 26, 2016

**COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RECOVERY PROGRAM**

The Community Law Enforcement and Recovery (CLEAR) program was initiated in 1997, as an innovative partnership between the City and County of Los Angeles, to combat growing gang violence as evidenced by the 1995 shooting of a three-year old in Northeast Los Angeles. The program was initially launched in the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD)'s Northeast Division and, throughout the years, received additional State, Federal, and local funding. Today, there are nine (9) CLEAR units in operation in the City of Los Angeles, all based out of LAPD divisions: Northeast, Foothill, Newton, Hollenbeck, Southeast, Southwest, Ramona Gardens, Rampart, and 77<sup>th</sup> Divisions.

The program endeavors to reduce gang crime in targeted communities by inserting a localized multi-agency law enforcement team that executes a multipronged gang suppression strategy. Each CLEAR team includes members from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Los Angeles Probation Department, Los Angeles City Attorney, Los Angeles County District Attorney, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (Division of Parole Operations). The teams undertake a variety of gang suppression activities: LAPD officers provide an increased police

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presence in targeted neighborhoods with a focus on arresting gang members involved in criminal activity. Armed Probation Officers provide support by participating in special operations, search and seizures, and ride-alongs. Attorneys from the two prosecutorial agencies prosecute the resulting gang cases and provide relevant trainings to the police officers. Descriptions of the program also refer to “explicit, built-in ties to community programs” including school programs, nonprofit and public social services, and other community-based organizations, such as churches and community centers.

The program is currently funded by the city utilizing a combination of federal grants and local general fund monies. The funding from the city does not cover the full cost of the program. For example, the funding to probation amounts to approximately 20% of a full-time Armed Deputy Probation Officer’s salary for each of the nine (9) sites.

The County, consistent with its mandate to provide appropriate law enforcement-related services to the citizens of Los Angeles County must periodically review and assess the continuing need for and/or efficacy of these specialized programs. Consequently, we should take the opportunity to reevaluate the nature and extent of the County’s participation in this program.

**WE, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the CEO, in consultation with the Interim Chief Probation Officer, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Sheriff, and the District Attorney, to report back with an reevaluation of the County’s participation in the CLEAR program, including:

1. An explanation of the criteria used to determine placement of probation officers at Police and Sheriff Stations;

2. An analysis of the reasons for the choices of the nine (9) CLEAR sites, and, if necessary, any recommendations for adjustment to the current assignments based on need in these or other geographical areas;
3. An evaluation of CLEAR program data collection system and historical outcomes;
4. An assessment of the current CLEAR program strategy to determine consistency with the most current research on effectiveness of gang interventions, including those generally referred to as “prevention,” “intervention,” and “suppression.”;
5. An evaluation of the County’s continued participation in the CLEAR program based on the current fiscal agreement; and
6. A recommendation for how to move forward, and if recommending further participation, a recommendation for incorporating periodic evaluations of program efficacy.